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82d Congress, 1st Session } SENATE { Report No. 699

RELATING TO VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR KOREAN RELIEF

August 22 (legislative day, August 1), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Gillette, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. J. Res. 281]

The Committee on Foreign Relations, having had under consideration House Joint Resolution 281, to authorize the President to proclaim a special period for intensified voluntary contributions of clothing and kindred supplies in connection with the collection effort of American Relief for Korea, Inc., unanimously reports the resolution to the Senate and recommends that it do pass.

PURPOSE

By this resolution, the Congress expresses its hope and expectation that Americans will respond generously to the appeal of American Relief for Korea, Inc., and authorizes the President to set aside as soon as practicable a period of not less than a month for a special clothing collection appeal of American Relief for Korea.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On June 28, 1951, Senator Bennett, for himself and 44 Senators, subsequently joined by 5 others, introduced Senate Joint Resolution 80, the Senate companion resolution to House Joint Resolution 281. The Committee on Foreign Relations voted on August 17, 1951, to report House Joint Resolution 281, which had passed the House on August 6, 1951, and was pending before the committee.

BACKGROUND

The plight of the refugees in Korea is pitiful. The shifting battle has destroyed millions of homes and unrooted great numbers of people

from their source of employment. United Nations officials report that there are 2,900,000 registered refugees and an untold number of non-registered ones. A minimum of food and medical care is provided by the Unified Command in Korea but clothing, blankets, yard goods, and similar supplies are desperately needed. The Unified Command has asked American relief agencies for 20,000,000 pounds of such materials before the onset of winter. To meet this need, 10 voluntary relief agencies have incorporated the American Relief for Korea. They are the American Friends Service Committee; Brethren Service Commission; Church World Service; Labor League for Human Rights, American Federation of Labor; Lutheran World Relief; Mennonite Central Committee; Save the Children Federation; War Relief Service—National Catholic Welfare Conference; World Student Service Fund; Young Women's Christian Association—World Emergency Fund. About 5 million pounds of clothing and similar items have been collected so far. Winter is not far from Korea and American Relief for Korea, Inc., hopes to collect the rest of the required amount during an intensive drive in September.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The resolution has wholehearted private and official endorsements. It does not call for the authorization of any funds for relief purposes. All necessary sums for packing and transportation to American ports will be furnished by voluntary agencies, and the cost of shipment to Korea will be met by the Army. Congressional and Presidential endorsement of this humanitarian effort will serve to dramatize and facilitate the success of the clothing appeal. The committee is convinced that the American people will respond generously as always.

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